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point from them. We may expect that whatever positive eugenic schemes are developed, they will accentuate further any differences of racial character that were present before.

That is as far as I am going in our subject, and I know I am leaving out what is the real immediate problem, that of making breed those who ought to breed. How far this can be accomplished I cannot judge, but it seems to me that much might be accomplished by child-allowances in taxation on a scale which would make it very expensive for the well-to-do to be childless. And perhaps a good deal would be done by a genuine feeling for eugenic duty, which in a democracy must certainly precede any strong eugenic legislation. All this is very

important, but it is on the political side. I will leave it to others to discuss. What I have attempted to show is that the need for national eugenic policy is urgent and that what we must aim at is simple. There is no hope that a better positive eugenic policy might be attained by waiting for fuller scientific knowledge, because of the essentially subjective character of its application. We already have enough to go on, if, instead of aiming at an unattainable certainty, we are content to allow the law of averages to produce its inevitable result. There is nothing to wait for in our positive eugenic policy, and we shall hardly be pardoned by the verdict of history if we do not forthwith set to work to carry it out.

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Baker, J. R., Ranson, R. M., and Tynen, J. (1937), *Journ. Hyg.*, 37, 474.

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though imperceptible selective process. This arises because individuals are endowed with different hereditary dispositions and because they contribute unequally to the formation of subsequent generations. Favourable social conditions do not, he held, usually tend to promote racial progress; in fact they tend to endanger it by limiting the action of natural selection. Governments must influence racial processes both quantitatively and qualitatively and this can be done most effectively by propaganda. It is to be noted that Schallmeyer called the science he dealt with Rassehygiene not Rassenhygiene, and by it he meant the hygiene of the genotype.

Lest it should appear from the above that Schallmeyer's work was only known in Germany it may be mentioned that in Holmes's "Bibliography of Eugenics," published in 1924, there are twenty-three entries against his name, dating from 1891 to 1919. Again at the Eugenic Congress held in London in 1912, the most important eugenic meeting held in England up to that date, a

paper was read by Dr. Agnes Bluhm in which Schallmeyer was spoke of as "one of the leading spirits of the German eugenic movement" (See "Problems in Eugenics," p. 388). The main theme of his work was illustrated by indicating that "when through the skill of the obstetrician a mother with a much contracted pelvis brings a living child into the world" he thus "contributes towards the spread of" this trouble in coming generations (ibid. p. 390). I should like to see this paper reconsidered in the light of modern additions both to medical knowledge and to eugenics. It may be added here that Dr. Alfred Ploetz, who is now, I believe, been for a longer time a fighter in the eugenic field than any other living German, was welcomed in England on that occasion as a representative of his country. Which of these two pioneers had greater influence in changing German thought in the right direction it is not for a non-German to attempt to decide. Schallmeyer was anyhow first in the field.

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normal parents, the likelihood of determination is so great that the result is of this same order.

important in medical practice, but more important for general administrative purposes, are the expectations of children when one or both parents are below the average of general intelligence. It has been born whose intelligence is impaired. In Table IV, these figures are given though, in some cases, they must not be taken as precise because of the small numbers of

families on which they are based. They may, however, be useful as a rough guide until more accurate figures are available.

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